

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1697 – SB 1881

March 17, 2014

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires cursive writing to be taught in all public schools such that students will be able to write in cursive by the end of the third grade.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (013935): Adds language to the original bill requiring a referendum to be held by voters who elect the school board members in each local education agency (LEA) before any curriculum standards developed by any group, entity, consortium, or corporation shall be adopted for use by any LEA.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Increase Local Expenditures - \$100,000*

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- No change in state curriculum standards as a result of a referendum.
- Referendums will be held in each LEA before the beginning of any academic year in which new curriculum standards that are developed by any group, entity, consortium, or corporation are adopted for use.
- The cost for each referendum will vary by LEA and will be dependent upon multiple unknown factors, such as the size of the LEA in which the referendum is held. Given the unknown factors, a precise estimate for statewide costs is difficult to determine. However, the recurring increase in local expenditures is reasonably estimated to exceed \$100,000 statewide.
- The State Board of Education will update existing curriculum standards to specifically include cursive writing in the normal course of Board meetings.

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- Based on information from the Department of Education, any increase in local expenditures to comply with the updated standards is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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